

# VIRGINIA ARGUS.

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THURSDAY, MARCH 3, 1812.

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## TO THE PATRONS OF THE VIRGINIA ARGUS.

At a very great expense, the proprietor, has lately procured entire new fonts of type for this paper, and increased the size of it considerably. It is believed that it now contains a quantity of matter nearly equal to any paper printed in America. The price [the same as in the year 1793, when it commenced] is 20 per cent. lower than the other papers of this city. Notwithstanding this, however, and the increased price of types, paper, &c. which cannot be obtained but for cash, the subscription will not be raised to punctual subscribers. But in justice to himself the printer gives this early notice to his patrons, that from and after the first day of the year 1812, the paper will be charged at the rate of FIVE DOLLARS per annum to all those who do not pay their subscriptions in the course of the current year.—The opportunities by private conveyances continually occurring throughout the year from every part of the State to Richmond [particularly by the Members of the Legislature and the Sheriff] and the facility afforded by the mails which pass through every neighbourhood at least once a fortnight, will leave those disposed to make remittances, no excuse for not doing so.—No subscription will hereafter be taken for less than six months, nor will the paper be discontinued till all arrears are paid up.

!!!

CHARLOTTE COURT, 1st Oct. 1810. —  
PLEASANT ROBERTS, Stephen Roberts, Joshua Roberts, William Roberts, Martha Roberts, Fanny Irby, who was Fanny Roberts, and Judy Chandler, who was Judy Roberts, children and representatives of Martha Roberts, who was Martha Womack, PLAINTIFFS, } In Chancery.

AGAINST  
Thomas Womack, administrator of William Womack, dec. William Womack, son of Francis Womack, dec. Abner Womack, Elizabeth Cuthbert, who was Elizabeth Womack, and John Spradlin and Mary his wife, which said Mary was Mary Womack, children and representatives of Abraham Womack, dec. William Womack, Mary Owen, who was Mary Womack, and Martha Womack, children and representatives of Isham Womack, dec. Francis Rice, Thomas Rice, Samuel Rice, Abram Rice, Isham Rice, Fanny Rice, Molly Cheatham, who was Molly Rice, and Elizabeth Puckett, who was Elizabeth Rice, children and representatives of Sarah Rice, dec. who was Sarah Womack, Francis Hamilton and Daniel Owen and Mary his wife, who was Mary Hamilton, children and representatives of Judy Hamilton, dec. who was Judy Womack, Mary Mann, who was Mary Womack, Josiah Hatchett, Joseph Tolbert and Martha his wife, who was Martha Hatchett, and Judith Forkner, who was Judith Hatchett, and William Hatchett, children and representatives of Elizabeth Hatchett, dec. who was Elizabeth Womack, DEFENDANTS.

"The Commissioners appointed under the Interlocutory Order made in this suit the 10th day of March, 1808, to make sale of the negroes and division of the whole estate in the said Interlocutory order mentioned made their report thereon." "In confirmation whereof it is ordered and decreed, that the sale and division therein mentioned made by the two Commissioners be established and made final between the parties, and that same, shewing their lineage and line of representation, &c. &c. as the subscribers will not pay out any of the said Estate but to those who come authorised as above.

JAMES DUPUY, Jr.

Notary.

ASA DUPUY, } Com's.

Prince Edward. }  
Virginia, June 28, 1811. (Stf. ocfw.)

Take this opportunity of announcing to all those still indebted to the late firm of ROBERT & ALLAN POLLOCK, & Co. that unless they come forward & make speedy and satisfactory arrangements for the payment of their respective debts, suits shall be indiscriminately instituted.

ALLEN POLLOCK,

surviving partner in this country of  
ROBERT & ALLAN POLLOCK, & Co.  
Richmond, June 21, 1811. tf.

GROCERIES.—Now landing from on board Schooners American Eagle and Indian Hunter from New York, 10 Hogsheads New Orleans Sugar; 15 hhds. Muscovado Sugar; 10 do. New England Rum; 6000 lbs. fine Northern Cheese; 60 bags Coffee; 20 quarter chests Imperial Tea; 20 do. Young Hyson do. 10 crates assorted Stone Ware; 20 Fagots Crawley Steel and 10 tons assorted Iron.—The above articles will be sold at a moderate advance, for cash, or to punctual customers.—also 30 barrels Prime Pork—30 Boxes Soap.

Shelton & Finney,

Feb. 17, 1812.

THE subscriber being desirous of closing his business, offers for sale at cost and charges, a very large and general assortment of well selected DRY GOODS, for cash or town acceptances.—All those having claims against me are requested to bring them forward for settlement, and those indebted will please come forward and discharge their respective accounts.

L. JOSEPH.

BACON ESTABLISHMENT.—Joseph Bacon and Ben: W. Ladd, at their Pork and Bacon House, on the street passing through the Felling Garden and near Shockoe creek, have for sale, by the piece or quantity, prime new Bacon, now fit for use.—Also good Lard by the keg.

2nd mo. 13th.

wtf.

FOR RENT, near the Capitol, the House belonging to E. Randolph, Esq. and lately occupied by the subscriber. Apply to Mr. Geo: Greenhow, or to

L. H. GIRARDIN.

February 10.

(tf)

WHEELER & WOOD, have for sale, Wheat Fans, constructed on an improved plan. Richmond, 17th Feb. 1812. wsf

## Historical Letters.

To the Editor of the Virginia Argus.

### LETTER XXI.

Formation of the Kingdoms of Modern Europe, after the fall of the Roman Empire.—Continued.

#### ITALY.

The country of Italy is, without contradiction, the most interesting of Europe on account of its history, its extraordinary works, and its soil; it possesses one of the most delicious temperatures of the earth; and it has been the cradle of the arts, the school of taste, the repository of the master-works of antiquity and of modern beauties. Anciently, Italy vanquished and subjugated the universe; but, as it was doomed to expiate in the most cruel manner so elevated a fortune, she has since been trodden under feet by all nations.

To the anarchy produced in Italy by the dismemberment of the empire of Charlemagne, succeeded by conquest, the domination of the emperors of Germany. Their power was absolute during the times of the family of Saxo; but it was greatly shaken under that of Franconia, and totally destroyed under that of Suabia, by the intrigues and the policy of the Popes; who, dreading such powerful neighbors, contrived to keep them in a state of perpetual embarrassment at home and abroad. This famous quarrel between the Emperors and the Popes, known under the name of the war of the Priesthood, or of the Guelphs and Ghibellines, continued three centuries, during which Italy, after experiencing all the miseries and horrors of fanaticism, of confusion, and of intestine broils, finally took the form which, in a great measure, it has preserved to our days.

This form embraces a variety of subordinate principalities. Of Naples I have already spoken. Tuscany, after innumerable revolutions and troubles without end, together with Florence, found repose and happiness under the administration of the Medici, who reigned a long time by the reputation of their virtues before they reigned under the authority of a title. Alexander, the first duke, was created by Charles V. in 1531. Pius V. elevated Cosmo to the dignity of grand duke in 1569. This country, on the extinction of the house of Medici, passed to that of Lorraine in 1737, on condition that it should never be united to the Austrian Monarchy. In 1802 it passed, by treaty, from the house of Lorraine to the Bourbons of Parma, who possess it at this time under the appellation of the kingdom of Etruria.

Parma and Placenza, after having been given by the Popes to the house of Farnese, passed, on its extinction, to a branch of the Bourbons of Spain, who, not long ago, ceded it to France in exchange for the kingdom of Etruria.

Modena, possessed for a long time by the house of Este, was merged by late changes in the modern kingdom of Italy. Its sovereign, the last male of the family, received the Brisgaw as an indemnity.

Milan and Mantua, by various political circumstances, passed to the house of Austria, in 1714 and 1708. This division of Italy has disappeared under recent arrangements, and makes part of the kingdom of Italy.

Genoa, after a multitude of revolutions, became, in 1528, by the courage of the famous Andrew Doria, a celebrated aristocratical republic, which lost its constitution by the late revolutions of Europe, and was united to France in 1805.

Piedmont and Montserrat accrued to the house of Savoy by marriage, by the favor, or grant of the emperors. The revolutions which affected so many other states, annexed these also to France.

Venice, which had formed itself in lapse of time, into an aristocratical republic, and which has existed until our days, displaying much of wisdom, of glory, of policy, and of power, has disappeared amidst the convulsions of modern times, and at present composes a great part of the kingdom of Italy.

The possessions of the Popes, whose temporal power was chiefly founded by Pepin and Charlemagne, and which were considerably increased by papal policy and the influence of spiritual authority, have been entirely wrested from the Holy Father. Part of these possessions have been incorporated with the kingdom of Italy, and part have been politically united to the French empire. As a consolation to the Romans for the loss of their Pontiff, Napoleon has proclaimed Rome the second imperial city of his dominions, and is now exerting himself to cleanse and embellish that ancient mistress of the world.

Besides these divisions of Italy, whose destiny I have briefly traced, there are others of less importance; and as political views change, there will doubtless be alterations made in the political geography of that peninsula. Of particular sovereignties which now exist there, Benevento has been given to Talleyrand; and Ponte-Corvo was lately the property of Marshal Bernadotte. The latter having been recently elected heir-apparent to the crown of Sweden, it is not certain that he will continue to hold his Italian principality. It is worthy of remembrance, that the little republic of San Marino, which does not contain more than seven thousand inhabitants, and can boast of thirteen centuries of existence, is still suffered to remain independent.

The painter who should pretend to delineate on the map of Italy, the marches and the conflicts of the various armies which, at different periods, have harassed its population and stained its soil with blood, would soon find his pallet exhausted of colors and his tablet devoid of intelligence. I shall, therefore, not attempt to portray in words what would be so difficult for the pencil; and, abandoning the military tracks of Bonaparte, of Saurawrow, of Champaet and of Magdonald, as well as the routes of those invaders who preceded them, I will turn my attention

to the poets and the artists of a country, whose genius, in one shape or another, appears to be almost imperishable.

#### POETS, &c.

Dante, of Florence, the father of Italian poetry, was famous by his *Hell*, his *Purgatory*, and his *Paradise*.

Petrarch, of Avignon, has immortalized the lovely Laura, the fountain of Vaucluse, and himself, by his tender and harmonious verses.

Boccaccio, of Tuscany, the disciple and the friend of Petrarch, was admired for his *Novels*. He lived a considerable time at Naples in the reign of queen Joan.

Machiavel, of Florence, was celebrated for his political treatise entitled *The Prince*, and by his Florentine history.

Ariosto, of Reggio, was the first poet of Italy with Tasso; more lively, more animated than the latter. He is the author of *Orlando Furioso*. The late Charles James Fox, who, with a literary taste, made himself well acquainted with the merits of the best ancient and modern poets, ranks Ariosto next to Homer.

Guicciardini, of Florence, was celebrated by his personal worth and his writings; and above all, by his history, in Italian, from 1494 to 1532.

Paul Jovian, bishop of Nocera, was celebrated by his writings, and particularly by his history, in 45 books, which comes down to 1544.

Tasso, of Naples, was the first poet of Italy with Ariosto; but more noble & more correct than the latter. He has written *Jerusalem Delivered* and *Aminta*. Mr. Fox thinks Tasso below Ariosto; yet at the same time acknowledges that Metastasio, who he admits ought to be a better judge of Italian poetry than himself, upon the whole gives Tasso the preference.

Guarini, of Ferrara, was a poet celebrated by his works, of which the most known is the *Pastor Fido*.

Gallileo, of Pisa, was celebrated for his science and misfortunes. He rendered himself immortal by his astronomical discoveries.

Torricelli, of Faenza, was the successor of Galileo in the mathematical career. He invented the microscope.

Metastasio, of Rome, was a dramatic poet, celebrated by the perfection to which he brought lyric tragedy.

#### PAINTERS, &c.

Cimabue and Giotto of Florence, were the restorers of painting and the fathers of the Florentine school.

Raphael Sanzio, of Urbino, ranks among the first of painters.

Leonardi da Vinci, of Florence, was one of the greatest men of his time.

Purpurino, of Perugia, was the master of Raphael.

Of these, the chief productions are, the *Transfiguration*, an immortal work, (by Raphael,) considered as the first picture of the world: *St. Cecilia*, which is very famous; and the celebrated *Halls of the Vatican*.

Andrew del Sarto Vanucchi, of Florence, is chiefly esteemed for variety: *The Madonna del Sacco*, and *St. Andrew adoring the cross*, are his principal works. He was a faithful copier.

Correggio Allegri, of Correggio, excelled in the graces of his art, and was the inventor of his own style of painting. He was skilful in the *Christmas-Night*, which is allowed to be admirable.

The Parmesan Mazzola, of Parma, who was called the son of the Graces, and whose works are very rare, distinguished himself by his *Moses*, his *Adam and Eve*, and some other pieces. He is supposed to have been the inventor of the art of etching with aquafortis.

Julius Romani Pippi, of Rome, was a pupil of Raphael, and equal to his master. Among other works, he left the *Victory of Juffier over the Giants*.

Michael Angelo Buonarroti, of Tuscany, was the first of the Italians for architecture and sculpture, and the emulator of Raphael in painting. His chief works are the *last Judgment*, the *Crucifixion*, and the *Church of St. Peter*.

Titian Vecellio, of Venice, was the first of the Venetian school; & the greatest colorist ever known. Reubens is compared to him. Among his best performances is the *Martyrdom of St. Peter*, *A last supper*, & *Christ crowned with thorns*.

Paul Veronese Callari, of Verona, possessed the richest and the finest genius for the composition of a picture. Of his performances, *Jesus Christ with the Pharisee* is distinguished.

Tintoretto Robusti, of Venice, astonished by the enthusiasm of his genius and the boldness of his pencil. *St. Mark*, and the *crucifixion of Jesus Christ*, are among his best pieces.

Caravaggio Amerigi, of Milan, had fine talents; but has too frequently copied nature in her deformities.

Barocchi, of Urbino, excelled in subjects of devotion. Many of his performances are to be found at the Louvre, in Paris.

The Caracchi, Lewis, Anthony, and Hannibal, together with their pupils, brought the art of painting to great perfection in all its branches. Among their productions the *Mother of Pity*, by Hannibal, is distinguished. Many of their works are held in great esteem.

Dominichini Zampieri, of Bologna, excelled in purity of design, in the beauty of his hands, and the naturalness of his attitudes. His *communion of St. Jerome*, (which ranks after the *Transfiguration* by Raphael,) is his chief piece.

Guido Reni, of Bologna, was remarkable for the aggregate of his perfections: without being equal to certain great masters, he united more of beauty, of grace, and of finish, than any one of them. His master-work is *St. Peter Weeping*, a celebrated performance, and supposed to be the most complete of Italy. This artist's love of gaming reduced him to great distress.

Joseph Ribera, a Spaniard, is considered as the first of the Neapolitan School. He de-

lighted in subjects of the terrible kind, and, among other things, has painted the *Twelve Prophets*. He sometimes engraved in aquafortis.

Albano, of Bologna, was principally celebrated for the noble and regular graces of his heads. There is, however, very little variation in these heads; for, having a beautiful wife and fine children, Albano sought for no other models. The fair Doralice was his Venus, and his sons were his Cupids.

Cavedoni, of Modena, was an esteemed disciple of Hannibal Caracchi, whose style he has imitated. He was so unhappy in his family that he died mad.

Andrew Sacchi, a Roman, and a disciple of Albano, imitated the graces of the latter, and is thought to have surpassed him in taste. Of his works, *St. Remondis* is very much esteemed.

Guercini Barbieri, so named because he had a cast in his eyes, was of Ferrara, and celebrated for the manly beauty of his traits, the richness of his pencil, and the facility of his productions. Among his principal pieces, *Dido* is much esteemed.

Salvator Rosa, of Naples, was a celebrated painter, engraver, and poet, famous for his travels, his sea-pieces, his battles, and, above all, by the brilliant coloring of his pictures.

Grimaldi, of Bologna, a pupil of Caracchi, was a painter and engraver, who chiefly excelled in landscape. Cardinal Mazarine employed him three years in embellishing the Louvre.

The Chevalier Bernini, of Naples, was a sculptor, painter, and architect, of considerable merit.

Prelli, of Naples, was esteemed for the richness of his invention and the strength of his coloring. Of his productions, the *Martyrdom of St. Peter* is distinguished.

Luke Jordans, of Naples, astonished by the facility of his talents, and has left many works behind him. He was employed by the king of Spain to paint for some time in the Escorial.

Maratti Carlo, of Ancona, is much esteemed for his fine pictures, of which his *Virgins*, his ravishing *expression*, and his majestic *ideas*, are exceedingly admired.

Solimeni, of Naples, was remarkable for his powers of imagination, and the freshness of his coloring.

Rosalba Cariera, a lady, of Venice, excelled in crayon & miniature. She became blind in 1748. She was much employed by the English nobility.

By the revolutions of modern times, the most celebrated Antiquities and Monuments, as well as paintings, have been torn from Italy. Those objects of admiration which formerly drew travellers and students to Rome; which used to adorn that city, Venice, and Florence; which once made the Vatican and its garden, the capitol, the palaces of Farnese, of Borghese, and the villas Albani and Ludovisi, most worthy of being visited by strangers, have, with few exceptions, been wrested from their owners & conveyed to France. The Romans of our days have had no Camillus to preserve them from the ravages of the Gauls.

C.

## CONGRESS.

IN SENATE, February 25.

The following bills were read a second time and committed, viz: The bill to incorporate the Trustees of the Georgetown Lancasterian School Society, to Messrs. Horsey, Bayard and Hunter; the bill supplementary to the act for the accommodation of the General Post Office and Patent Office, and for other purposes, to Messrs. Bradley, Gregg and Howell; the bill for the relief of the officers and soldiers who served in the late campaign on the Wabash, to Messrs. Pope, Anderson and Bibb.

The bill to authorise a detachment from the Militia of the U. States, was on motion of Mr. Bradley recommitted, in consequence of having moved to amend the same so as to define the duties of the militia thus detached, viz. to execute the laws of the Union, suppress insurrections and repel invasions. Messrs. Bradley, Pope, Crawford, Reed and Varnum are the committee.

February 26.

The joint resolution of the House respecting arts and manufactures, was read the second time and committed to Messrs. Gregg, Crawford and Lloyd.

The Loan Bill was read a second time and referred to Messrs. Lloyd, Crawford and Tait.

The bill establishing a land office, was ordered to be read a third time.

The bill authorising the purchase by the United States of Winslow Lewis's light-house patent, was ordered to be read a third time.

Mr. Bibb reported a bill for the relief of Thomas & William Streshly, which was read and passed to a second reading.

February 27.

The bill from the House, supplementary to the act "providing for the accommodation of the General Post Office and Patent Office," was passed to a third reading.

Mr. Pope reported a bill for the relief of the representatives of Samuel Lapsley, dec. which was read and passed to a second reading.

The bill authorising the purchase of Winslow Lewis's light-house patent, was read a third time.

The bill establishing a general Land Office in the Department of the Treasury, was read a third time and passed.

The Senate took up the bill concerning a naval establishment; and Mr. Lloyd having moved to add to the bill a new section going to direct the building of a number of frigates; the further consideration of the bill was postponed till to-morrow.

February 28.

The bill for the benefit of Christopher Mil-

ler was taken up, and on the question of its being read a third time, it passed in the negative.

Mr. Giles reported a bill for the relief of the Collectors of the ports of Baltimore and of Norfolk and Portsmouth; and the bill was read and passed to a second reading.

Mr. Lloyd reported the Loan bill with amendments.

On motion of Mr. Smith of Md. the Navy bill was further postponed to Monday.

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

February 25.

Mr. Pitkin presented the petition of Stephen Fellows, a wounded soldier of the Revolution, praying for an increase of pension, owing to his entire disability to earn any thing towards a subsistence by labor.

Mr. P. said this petitioner was already allowed five dollars a month, the highest degree of pension provided by the laws of the United States; but he thought that persons so utterly incapacitated as he knew this man to be, ought to have a larger allowance.—He moved therefore, to refer the petition to the committee of claims, with instructions "to enquire into the expediency of making provision by law for increasing the pension of non-commissioned officers and soldiers, to a greater sum than is at present allowed, whenever, in consequence of wounds, they have become totally unable to maintain themselves by manual labor."

Messrs. Alston and Shaw opposed this motion, as tending to break up all the present regulations in this respect, and to bring in a crowd of applicants of the same kind; they thought the United States had done enough on this subject. If there were any particularly hard cases, the states in which such persons lived, or the society about them, would doubtless render them the assistance which their situation required. Mr. S. moved that the petition lie on the table. This motion was negatived, 41 to 38. After a few observations against the reference, by Mr. Widgery, and in favor of it by Mr. Fisk, the motion was carried, 45 to 43. On the suggestion of Mr. Little the word "*officers*," was added before the word "*non-commissioned*."

Mr. Pitkin also presented the petition of sundry manufacturers of Waterbury, Connecticut, stating that their works would shortly be at a stand for want of iron, copper and brass wire, and praying liberty to import the same from G. Britain.—Referred.

Mr. Gholson, from the committee of claims, reported a bill to continue in force an Act to provide for persons disabled by known wounds received in the revolutionary war, which was twice read and committed.

Mr. C. also made an unfavorable report on the petition of Dennis Dempsey, which was concurred in.

Mr. Lewis, from the Columbia District Committee, reported a bill authorising the President of the United States to lease for a term of years one of the reservations of public ground in the City of Washington (the vacant ground lying west of the Capitol) for the purpose of a Botanic Garden. The bill was twice read and committed.

Mr. Seibert called up the resolution which he had laid upon the table some days ago, proposing to authorise the Secretary of the Treasury to employ a proper person to arrange and digest the information on the subject of manufactures, received from the marshals of the several states, which, after receiving some little modification from its mover, was read three times and passed.

## THE LOAN.

The engrossed bill for authorising a loan, for eleven millions of dollars, was read the third time; and the question being put, "Shall the bill pass its third reading?"

Mr. M. Clay expressed a wish that the bill might be postponed for a few days. It was predicated upon war, which many still hoped might be avoided. The Constitution had just arrived from France, and had probably brought dispatches, which doubtless would be communicated to Congress as soon as they could be got ready. He hoped, therefore, the consideration of this bill would be postponed till Monday next. And he gave notice that he should move a like postponement of the report of the committee of ways and means in relation to taxes, when that subject shall be called up.

Mr. Bacon, said, whatever weight the remarks of the gentleman from Virginia might have, in relation to the taxes, he hoped they would not prevail in postponing the consideration of the present bill. Congress had already authorised very large expenses, which must be provided for; and the Executive ought to have some time allowed him to ascertain whether loans can be obtained upon the terms contained in the bill.

Mr. Smilie said, it was well known that he had been opposed to a part of the measures of expense which had been authorised; but as the bills had now become laws, he felt himself bound to provide the ways and means for carrying them into effect. And he was for doing this at once, without waiting for any communications from abroad, which were altogether uncertain.

The motion for postponement was lost.

The question then returned on the passage of the bill.

Mr. Randolph did not feel himself bound to vote for this bill because the expenses, for the meeting of which it went to provide a loan, had been authorised. He held himself perfectly absolved from these measures; as he had constantly opposed them in their progress through the House.

But I do not rise (said Mr. R.) either to make an apology for my vote, or with an expectation of changing the sentiments of a single individual in this House. It is for the purpose, if it were possible, of being heard by those to whom alone I feel myself amenable for my public conduct. But I well know, from long and tried experience in this House, that this is a desperate hope—that the age